Docket No.: 17102/012001

REMARKS

Please consider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. The above amendments were made solely to remove multiple dependencies and correct erroneous dependencies. These amendments are not made in view of prior art and are fully supported by the original specification. No new matter has been added.

Applicant believes this application to be in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17102.012001.

Dated: January 28, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan P. Osha

Registration No.: 33,986

(713) 228-8600

(713) 228-8778 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant

Attachments

Application No. (if known): Not Yet Assigned Attorney Docket No.: 17102/012001 Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV535680038US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 January 28, 2005 Date Signature Toni A. Hill Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate 713-228-8600 Registration Number, if applicable Telephone Number Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper. **Preliminary Amendment**